

Nativity of Our Lord Catholic Church

Stanford Avenue at Prior Avenue South • St. Paul, MN 55105 • (651) 696-5401
Website: www.nativity-mn.org Email: info@nativity-mn.org

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 30, 2011

LIFE MATTERS:
THE DEATH PENALTY



RESPECT LIFE

Respect Life News

Respecting life goes beyond abortion and while that is a difficult topic in itself, the death penalty presents a complex moral issue as well—balancing justice with charity. There are terrible crimes that seem to beg for the ultimate punishment but the Gospel calls us forever to forgiveness and reconciliation without exception. We have advanced as a society to have little need for the death penalty given our criminal justice system. The death penalty begets vengeance and retribution; satisfying our anger of violence with violence is at odds with our Christian obligation. Imprisonment is effective at removing the offender from society and it allows time for repentance and rehabilitation. We should never lose our conviction that even the worst offenders are our brothers and sisters in Christ, who offers forgiveness and eternal life to all. The death penalty takes away the opportunity for conversion. We are reminded of this in the sad and amazing story of St. Maria Goretti, who at age 11, fought off a 20 year old rapist, who because she resisted him, proceeded to stab her fourteen times. On her death bed, just hours after the attack, she forgave him. Had the man not been a minor as well, he would have been given the death penalty, however he was sentenced to thirty years imprisonment. For three years he was unrepentant, however one day the local bishop came to visit and after that he wrote to him, asking the bishop to pray for him. The attacker had a dream that Maria visited him, giving him lilies which burned in his hands. He repented and began to lead an exemplary life—after serving his sentence, he visited Maria's mother, asking for her forgiveness. She told him, “my daughter forgave you, I can do no less” and they attended mass together. He prayed to Maria often, calling her his “little saint”. He worked with the parish community and became a lay brother of the Order of Capuchin Franciscans. His name was Alessandro Serenelli and he had the honor of attending the canonization of St. Maria. Had he been executed, he would not have been able to make the transformation he did. Thanks to the ministry in prisons by Catholics, countless inmates have allowed God to transform their lives, placing their trust in the Lord's merciful love. The death penalty may make us think that we have eliminated a problem and lulls us into thinking we have addressed the problem, but we have not dealt with the deeper issues of what has gone wrong in society to breed violent crime—poverty, fatherlessness, discrimination, injustice, and hopelessness. There are many degrees of guilt and culpability as there are crimes and yet the death penalty imposes one definitive, final, indiscriminate punishment on all, halting the action of the Holy Spirit on the condemned person's soul for eternity. It goes without saying the countless people who have been exonerated via the advancements in technology and DNA testing. A human life cannot be given back once it has been taken. Pope Benedict XVI said of the goal of Christian prison ministry, “Chaplains and their collaborators are called to be heralds of God's infinite compassion and forgiveness. They are entrusted with the weighty task of helping the incarcerated rediscover a sense of purpose so that, with God's grace, they can reform their lives, be reconciled with their families and friends, and insofar as possible, assume the responsibilities and duties which will enable them to conduct upright and honest lives.” This is a challenge to all of us as Christians. We believe that all human life is from God, and He alone is the master of life and of death.

Nativity News

First Friday Fellowship is this Friday, November 4th. All are invited for coffee and doughnuts in Steiner Hall following the 8:15 a.m. Mass.



The NCCW Memorial Mass will be held this Saturday, November 5th at the 8:15 a.m. Mass. All those who have died this past year will be remembered during the Mass. If a relative or parishioner's funeral took place elsewhere this past year and you would like them to be remembered at this Mass, please call the parish office at (651) 696-5401 with their name. All are invited to a continental breakfast in Steiner Hall following the Mass.

Third Order Community of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel is hosting an information gathering on Sunday, November 6th, 1:00 p.m. in Steiner Hall. Lay Carmelites are practicing Catholic men and women, in good standing, who want to grow spiritually by following the Carmelite way of life. Call Dan or Mary at (651) 454-6123 for more information.

Nativity Grandparents. Come join fellow grandparents and Fr. Joe for our 1st meeting of the **Grandparents Apostolate of Sts. Joachim and Anne.** We will meet on Wednesday, November 9th at 8:45 a.m. and repeat the meeting on Wednesday, November 16th at 7:00 p.m. Both meetings will take place in Steiner Hall. Come and support other grandparents through prayer, sharing of practical grandparent tips and fellowship with the goal of passing on the truths of the Catholic faith to our younger generation. Refreshments will be served.



Mark your calendars for the annual **Turkey Bingo** on Sunday, November 13th from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. in the school auditorium. Join us for your chance to win a turkey or cash prizes. Sponsored by NCCW.

Pastoral Ministry News

Nativity's Grief Group meets this Thursday, November 3rd at 8:45 a.m. in Steiner Hall. All are welcome. For more information, contact Nancy Shatek-Suek at (651) 696-5444.



Food Collection Sunday is next weekend, November 5th & 6th. All food and cash collected is donated to Keystone Community Food Shelf to assist people living in our community. Please consider bringing a bag of non-perishable food to church with you next weekend.

Faith Formation News

Be Sealed With the Gift of the Holy Spirit — The Sacrament of Confirmation



This is a very special week as the eighth grade students of our school and parish take the final steps to prepare for the reception of the sacrament of Confirmation. This journey of faith, prayer and knowledge of our Catholic beliefs began for our young people last year. The students have learned more about themselves and have intentionally chosen to further develop their relationship with God. Our Confirmation candidates, along with their sponsors, parents and catechists, have taken this process seriously so that as each of our young people enters into the Confirmation service next weekend at the St. Paul Cathedral, they do so with an open heart, ready to join the adult membership of our Catholic Church.

We know the next two weeks will be very memorable ones for those seeking Confirmation. All are invited as members of Nativity Parish to enter into this experience with our young people by keeping all of them in your prayers this week. There will be prayer cards available at the cross aisle in the upper church with each candidate's name. Please take a prayer card after Mass today and pray for him or her throughout the week - asking God to open their hearts to the gifts of the Holy Spirit which they will receive next Sunday afternoon.

Our Confirmation candidates participated in a special day of retreat a few weeks ago in anticipation of next week's reception of the Sacrament. During that retreat they were able to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation to better prepare their hearts and minds to receive the graces that come from the Holy Spirit at Confirmation.

They also will gather this Friday evening for a Confirmation prayer vigil. This is the final time all of the candidates from Nativity Parish and School will gather in prayer together prior to being confirmed. We invite each member of our parish community to remember our young people in prayer on Friday evening and especially Sunday afternoon. On Sunday, November 13th, the newly Confirmed will be honored at the 11:00 a.m. liturgy followed by a reception in Steiner Hall. We hope you will join us for this beautiful liturgy which completes their Confirmation celebration and begins their new journey as adult members of the Catholic Church.

*Come Holy Spirit,
fill the hearts of your faithful;
enkindle them in the fire of your love.*

From the Hip

One of the blessings of being a priest on his first assignment is that people provide me with suggestions regarding homilies. This week two notable suggestions came my way. One was from a mother who told of a homily given several years ago at a mom's gathering at a local Catholic school. The priest started the homily by discussing the busyness of a mother's life, how there is almost never a break from the cell phone, texting, as well as the more traditional forms of interruption that is a part of the vocation of motherhood. Then he invited all the mothers to put away all their electronic devices and just be quiet for 5 minutes. And he kept quiet for 5 minutes. It was a powerful reminder of how important silence is in our lives. This week, let us consider doing just that, for at least 5 minutes a day, regardless of one's vocation, to turn everything off and be alone in the quiet with God. A second homily suggestion was made at this time of year when the World Series is being played, as it tells of an inspiring baseball story. To see the story, go to: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t51nmUqBEMQ>. It is a secular story, but gives us a bit of insight on the communion of saints, which is fitting for November...the month that begins with the great feasts of All Saints Day and All Souls Day, and during which we at Nativity remember, in a special way, those who have died this past year at the NCCW Memorial Mass at 8:15 a.m. on Saturday, November 5. Let us remember in prayer all who have gone before us in the faith, especially those who were influential in mentoring us. Let us also remember our confirmation students as they make their last preparations before reception of that great sacrament a week from today.

As the countdown to the new Mass translation reaches 4 weeks, our educational programs continue. On Thursday, November 3 will be the next such presentation; 7:00 p.m. in the upper church.

Next weekend, Fr. Rocky Hoffman, who is known by many for his involvement with Relevant Radio, will be preaching at all the weekend Masses except 5:00 p.m. Sunday. He will preach on the value of spending an hour a week with God in Eucharistic Adoration.

Wishing you God's blessings of love, joy, peace & hope in this coming week.

—Fr. Joe



Daylight Savings Time ends next Sunday, November 6th. Don't forget to turn your clocks back one hour before you go to bed on Saturday night.

Altar Server & Lector Schedule

MONDAY, OCT 31

8:15 am: Julianna McKenna, Emma Hostetler

5:00 pm: Frances Regan, Katherine Wohletz

TUESDAY, NOV 1—ALL SAINTS DAY

8:15 am: Julianna McKenna, Emma Hostetler, Clare Hennessey

5:00 pm: Frances Regan, Katherine Wohletz, Emma Dombrow

7:00 pm: Mary Rumpza, Kathleen McClure, Annie Thompson

WEDNESDAY, NOV 2

8:15 am: Monica Harris, Clare Hennessey

5:00 pm: Gwen Sullivan, Emma Dombrow

THURSDAY, NOV 3

8:15 am: Jackie Blake, Eliza Harris

5:00 pm: Gwen Sullivan, Mary McConville

FRIDAY, NOV 4

8:15 am: Molly Hynes, Rachel Wolf

5:00 pm: Emma Maslow, Mary McConville

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5

8:15 am: Colleen Scallen, Sophia Thuente, Katie Berthiaume

5:00 pm:

Servers: Rosemary Johnson, Sarah Haley, Kristin Hansen, Katie McCloughan

Lectors: Ty Silberhorn, Larry Gallatin

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6

7:00 am

Servers: Augie Thuente, Stephen Weiser

Lector: Cheryl Talbot

8:15 am

Servers: Curran Yarano, Andy Zobel, Cameron & Eric Ubel

Lectors: Joey Utvik, Michaela Wentz

9:30 am

Servers: Joe Thuente, Joey Vanderwall

Lectors: Tim Sobocinski, Steve Sheridan

11:00 am

Servers: Rudy Thomey, Ryan Tracy, Jack Ankerstjerne, Luke Bishop, Bobby Buckley, Brooks Budelis

Lectors: Jerry Alfveby, Mark Schulzetzenberg

5:00 pm

Lectors: Jim Zenk, Pat McGuire

Adoration

Adoration Sign-Up Sunday is next weekend, November 5th & 6th. Fr. Rocky from Relevant Radio will be here to speak at the weekend Masses on the importance of Eucharistic Adoration. Please prayerfully consider becoming a regular adorer.

Ideally, two people are needed in the adoration chapel each hour. The yellow squares identify those times when only one person is spending time with our Lord. **The red squares indicates hours currently without Adorers.** If interested in spending a peaceful hour with Jesus, contact Jim McQuillan at mcquillanj@rjfagencies.com or (763) 746-8244 or sign-up through the Nativity website at Nativity-mn.org/parish site/spiritual life/perpetual adoration.

Time	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
12 am-1am							
1 - 2 am							
2 - 3 am							
3 - 4 am							
4 - 5 am							
5 - 6 am							
6 - 7 am							
7 - 8 am							
9 - 10 am							
10 - 11am							
11 - noon							
12 - 1 pm							
1 - 2 pm							
2 - 3 pm							
3 - 4 pm							
4 - 5 pm							
5:30 pm							
6 - 7 pm							
7 - 8 pm							
8 - 9 pm							
9 - 10 pm							
10 - 11 pm							
11 - 12 am							

Stewardship

October 23, 2011	Current	Fiscal YTD	Budget YTD
Stewardship Offering	21,320.40	—	—
Total Stewardship	21,320.40	443,661.23	462,603.00
Plate	1,729.29	25,871.15	27,788.00
Hunger Box	73.25	2,524.88	3,269.00
World Mission	2,468.30	—	—

All Saints Day ~ November 1
A Holy Day of Obligation

Mass Schedule
7:00 , 8:15 a.m.
5:00, 7:00 p.m.

Nativity Men's Club News



This is the final week of the **Nativity Men's Club Wreath Sales!** Proceeds from the wreath sales are used to fund various projects and needs of Nativity School. If you would still like to place an order for wreaths, garland, or swags, you can mail your order form to the parish office, place your order in the collection basket, or place your order online at www.nativitymen.org/Wreath_Sales.html.

Also, we could still use some additional route drivers who would be able to deliver wreaths on Saturday morning, November 19. If you would like to help, please sign up via www.nativitymen.org and click on the wreath and follow the links. You may also contact Darcy Tinnes at (612) 987-3450 or Eric Hedman at (651) 338-9070.

Nativity Moms' Club

Nativity Moms' Club is your place for faith-based fellowship and support. Upcoming events:

- November 14th, Book Club at Aimee's house, 8:00 p.m. This month's book is The Saint for the Third Millennium: St. Therese of Lisieux by Rev. Charles Connor.
- November 17th, Thanksgiving/Advent preparation playdate, 9:30 to 11:00 a.m., Steiner Hall.

Contact Aimee Gatti, (651) 699-4976, threecats123@comcast.net or Jessica Quinn, (651) 659-0677, Jessica.quinn50@gmail.com for more information.

"America

you are beautiful...and blessed.

The ultimate test of your greatness is the way you treat every human being, but especially the weakest and most defenseless.

If you want equal justice for all and true freedom and lasting peace, then America, defend life."

—Pope John Paul II

Weekly Scripture Readings

Oct 31: Rom 11:29-36; Lk 14:12-14
Nov 1: Rv 7:2-4, 9-14; 1 Jn 3:1-3; Mt 5:1-12a
Nov 2: Wis 3:1-9; Rom 5:5-11; Jn 6:37-40
Nov 3: Rom 14:7-12; Lk 15:1-10
Nov 4: Rom 15:14-21; Lk 16:1-8
Nov 5: Rom 16:3-9, 16, 22-27; Lk 16:9-15
Nov 6: Wis 6:12-16; 1 Thes 4:13-18; Mt 25:1-13

Mass Intentions

Oct 31 8:15 a.m.—Dorothy Grimes +
5:00 p.m.—Jean Gavin Cote +
Nov 3 8:15 a.m.—Mary Grundner +
5:00 p.m.—Marie Rajewski +
Nov 4 8:15 a.m.—Fr. Bernard Coughlin +
5:00 p.m.—Mayme Vail +
Nov 5 8:15 a.m.—Memorial Mass

Community News

2011 Fall Conference: Catholics in the Public Square.

What are our responsibilities as Catholics when it comes to the political life? What about the separation of Church and State? How do I vote my conscience when no candidate expresses my Catholic views? Come learn the answers to these questions and more on November 5th at Our Lady of Grace Church, Edina. The conference begins at 8:00 a.m. with Mass and concludes at Noon. Admission is free, however reservations are required. Call (651) 291-4488 by November 3rd to reserve your spot. Sponsored by the Office of Marriage, Family and Life.

The Priests, a singing trio of priests from Northern Ireland will perform at the Pantages Theatre, Minneapolis on November 13th at 7:30 p.m. The majority of the proceeds benefit their charitable fund which helps build schools and provide for the homeless. Tickets are available through Ticketmaster or at the Pantages box office.

Coping With Holiday Grief: Helping Yourself & Those You Love, Tuesday, November 15th, 7:00 p.m. at Lumen Christi Community Room. Learn ways to cope with the special grief that comes with the holiday season. RSVP by calling (651) 698-5581.

The 2nd Quarterly Meeting of the St. Paul Deaneries Council of Catholic Women will be at St. John's Church, Little Canada on Thursday, November 17th. Registration begins at 8:15 a.m. The day ends with mass at noon followed by lunch. Fr. John Paul Erickson will present a program on the New Roman Missal. Cost is \$12 and includes lunch. For reservations call (651) 644-5651 by November 11th.

Nativity of Our Lord Catholic Church

Sunday Mass

Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:00 p.m.
 Sunday: 7:00, 8:15, 11:00 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.
 Mass in Steiner Hall: 9:30 a.m.

Daily Mass

Monday-Saturday: 8:15 a.m.
 Monday-Friday: 5:00 p.m.

Hearing aid devices available in the sacristy for the hearing impaired.

Sacrament of Penance

Monday through Friday: 7:45 a.m. & 4:30 p.m.
 Saturday: 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Emergency Sick Calls (Any Hour) 696-5401 (press 1)

Lannan Parish Center Office Hours:

Monday thru Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
 Friday 8:00 a.m. to Noon
 1900 Wellesley Avenue 696-5401
 Fax 696-5458

School Office

1900 Stanford Avenue 699-1311

Website:

www.nativity-mn.org

E-Mail:

info@nativity-mn.org

Parish Pastoral Council

Nancy Johnson, Chair 690-9809

Prayer Line Times:

9:00-11:00 a.m. & 6:00-7:00 p.m.
 Mary Kay McQuade 454-7431
 Bette Hoffman 699-8249

Nativity Welcoming Committee

Sara & Patrick Cotter (612) 695-2552

Pastor

Father Patrick Hipwell 696-5401

Parochial Vicar

Father Joe Bambenek 696-5440

Parish Business Administrator

Laura Barr 696-5423

Parish Secretary/Assistant to Pastor

Carol Thuente 696-5401

Faith Formation Director

Randy Mueller 696-5454

Director of Music & Liturgy

Patrick Henning 696-5430

Director of Nativity Choir

Rob Pontious 653-3655

Pastoral Care Coordinator

Nancy Shatek-Suek 696-5444

Principal

Kate Wollan 699-1311

Assistant Principal

Sandy Kane 699-1311

Alumni Relations

Mary Jo Iverson 696-5411

School Tuition

Mary Super 696-5441

Early Learning Center Director

Nicole McGie 696-5437

Facilities Director

Bill Beltz 696-5434


Bulletin

Molly Dressen (bulletin@nativity-mn.org) 696-5425

Baptisms: Baptisms are held the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month at 9:30 a.m. in the main church. For first-time parents, required baptismal classes are held the 4th Sunday of each month at 1:30 p.m. in the main church. Call Lannan Center to register.

Weddings: The bride or groom, or parent(s) must be an active registered parishioner for at least 6 months prior to scheduling a wedding at Nativity.

Parish Calendar · October 31 ~ November 6, 2011

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
	<p>Late School Start—9am</p> <p>All Saints Day Masses: 7, 8:15am 5, 7pm</p> <p>RCIA Lannan Center Conf. Room 7pm</p>	<p>Religious Ed Program School 6:45pm</p>	<p>Grief Group Steiner Hall 8:45am</p> <p>Roman Missal Presentation Church 7pm</p>	<p>1st Friday Fellowship Steiner Hall 8:45am</p> <p>Confirmation Vigil Church 7pm</p>	<p>Memorial Mass Church 8:15am</p>	<p>Baptisms Church 9:30am</p> <p>Confirmation Cathedral 2pm</p>
					<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> Food Collection Weekend </div>	